

I believe Verizon's petition should be denied. LNP already exists for wired telephones, and the technical issues are similar. Verizon claims that expenses are not justified by tangible benefits. Any consumer who has ever had to deal with changing a phone number will disagree. And in the end, if there are any costs, they will be passed on to the consumer anyway. The real issue for Verizon, I suspect, is that LNP would level the playing field across cellular providers, since consumers would not need to weigh the costs of changing their number against the benefits of a new provider. While there are undoubtedly costs to provide LNP, I believe the benefits *to the consumer* should weigh more heavily.